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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, ITU
SUBJECT: ITU: ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL: CHANGES IN REPRESENTATION AND PROPOSED NEW VICE CHAIRMAN

1. DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARY GENERAL MILI AND OTHER ITU OFFICIALS INDICATE MAJOR CHANGE IN REPRESENTATION IN ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL THIS YEAR WITH MANY OLD FACES DROPPING OUT.

2. AMONG THESE WHO WILL NO LONGER BE AROUND ARE:

A. ANITA SZLAZAK, CANADA, WHO HAS BECOME DEPUTY MINISTER IN HER ADMINISTRATION AND WILL NO LONGER REPRESENT CANADA AT ITU MEETINGS.

B. MK. BASU, INDIA, WHO HAS RETIRED FROM HIS ADMINISTRATION AND IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY ITU AS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ADVISER IN CARIBBEAN.

C. MOHAMED BENABDELLAH, MOROCCO, WHO HAS LEFT ADMINISTRATION.

D. JOHANNES KUPPER (FRG) WHO HAS RETIRED.

E. T. AKINDELE AND VICTOR HAFFNER (NIGERIA) BOTH RUMORED
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TO HAVE LEFT ADMINISTRATION FOLLOWING OUSTER OF GENERAL GOWON

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IN AUGUST 1975.

3. IN "DOUBTFUL" CATEGORY ARE:

A. MAURICE GHAZAL (LEBANON), REPORTED TO BE BROTHER-IN-LAW OF EX-PRESIDENT FRANGIE AND WHO MAY NOW BE OUT OF HIS ADMINISTRATION; AND

B. RUDOLF RUTSCHI (SWITZERLAND), WHO HAS RETIRED FROM HIS ADMINISTRATION. THERE IS SOME SPECULATION THAT SWISS PTT MIGHT HIRE RUTSCHI AS CONSULTANT TO PERMIT HIM TO REUTRN TO COUNCIL THIS YEAR, BUT THIS NOT CERTAIN.

4. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, MS. SZLAZAK WAS SLATED TO BECOME VICE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL THIS SESSION WHICH IS NOW PRECLUDED BY HER PROMOTION. IN HER STEAD, AND SINCE 1976 IS TURN OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE TO PROVIDE VICE CHAIRMAN, MILI IS PROPOSING BRAZILIAN REP DR. JOAO SANTELLI.

5. COMMENT: TELATT HAS WORKED WITH SANTELLI SINCE 1973 AND HAS FOUND HIM BRIGHT, CAPABLE, COOPERATIVE AND SYMPATHETIC TO U.S. INTERESTS AND BELIEVES HIM TO BE AN EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR VICE PRESIDENCY WHICH WILL LEAD TO COUNCIL PRESIDENCY IN 1977. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT WORTHWHILE FOR U.S. TO CONSIDER VICE PRESIDENCY FOR ITSELF SINCE:

A. U.S. HAS SECURE SEAT ON STEERING COMMITTEE THROUGH CHAIRMANSHIP OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE, WHICH IT WOULD LOSE IF IT WENT AFTER VICE PRESIDENCY; AND

B. VICE PRESIDENCY WOULD REMOVE U.S. REP FROM ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN PLENARY DEBATES. END COMMENT. ABRAMS

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